BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2005-277-S - ORDER NO. 2005-570

OCTOBER 13, 2005

IN RE:	Request of Midlands Utility, Incorporated to)	ORDER GRANTING
	Extend its Sanitary Sewer Service Area to)	CERTIFICATE AND
	Allow it to Service Total Comfort Service)	APPROVING
	Center, Incorporated which is Located in West)	EXTENSION OF
	Columbia, South Carolina.)	SERVICE

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Midlands Utility, Inc. (Midlands or the Company) for Commission approval to include the Total Comfort Service Center, Inc., located at 346 Orchard Drive in West Columbia, South Carolina in the Company's current service area on file with the Commission. Midlands is requesting that the public hearing and notice requirements be waived since this is a single service and adjacent to the Belmont Park Subdivision that was recently approved by the Commission. According to Midlands, the customer will be charged in accordance with the approved rates and charges approved by the Commission. Wastewater from this project will be transported through Midlands' existing collection system and be transported to the City of Cayce for treatment and disposal.

We would note that we are governed by 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-504 (Supp. 2004) in this matter, which requires a Company desiring an extension of any utility system to obtain a Certificate from this Commission after this Commission examines the

public interest and the public convenience and necessity of the matter. This is normally done after notice and due hearing. In this case, Midlands requests waiver of the notice and hearing provisions, since this is a single service and it is adjacent to the Belmont Park Subdivision addition that was recently approved by the Commission. See Order No. 2005-479. In a case where compliance with any of the Commission rules and regulations introduces unusual difficulty, such rules and regulations may be waived by the Commission upon a finding by the Commission that such waiver is in the public interest. See 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-501(3) (1976). In the present case, we find that unusual difficulty results in complying with the notice and hearing provisions, since the entity which will be added is a single service and it is adjacent to an area which was just added to Midlands' service area by this Commission. It is simply not economical to require notice and hearing in this circumstance. Further, it is in the public interest to waive the notice and hearing, since this allows for the furnishing of the desired sewer service to the entity involved in an expedited fashion. Accordingly, notice and hearing are waived in this instance.

Further, we grant the requisite Certificate. Clearly, provision of sewer service to Total Comfort Service Center, Inc. is in the public interest and is a matter of public convenience and necessity, since it is adjacent to a subdivision that will receive sewer service from Midlands, and it is questionable whether Total Comfort could actually obtain the service from another provider. We also note that the customer will be charged in accordance with already approved rates and charges. In short, we approve the

Application as filed, and sewer service may be extended to Total Comfort Service Center, Inc.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice-Chairman

(SEAL)